

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only

received

date entered

**1. Name**

historic Gramelspacher-Gutzweiler House

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 11th and Main Streets N/A not for publication

city, town Jasper N/A vicinity of ~~Congressional district~~

state Indiana code 018 county Dubois code 037

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Historic Jasper, Inc.

street & number P.O. Box 525

city, town Jasper N/A vicinity of state Indiana

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder's Office

street & number Dubois County Courthouse

city, town Jasper state Indiana 47546

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title National Register of Historic Places has this property been determined eligible? ☒ yes ☐ no

date 1978 (Removed 1981) ☒ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

## 7. Description

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☐ original site  
☒ moved date 1980

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

This building is an unusual example of the Federal style in Indiana. As is the case with many Federal examples, the building is a simple rectangular mass five bays long and three bays wide, with the entrance centrally placed on one of the long sides. The unusual feature is that the fractables of the gables are stepped (corbiesteps or crowsteps), rather than inclined. The roofline is otherwise a simple pitched roof, with a plain, boxed cornice.

The elevations consist of brick walls set on a high fieldstone basement, with jack-arched openings surrounded by wide, painted wooden frames and wooden shutters. The entrance, on the main, (south) elevation, is a semi-glazed leaf flanked by sidelights and topped by a fanlight with radiating mullions. Directly above the entrance is a balcony, which is supported by paired modillions, and enclosed by a simple, iron railing; the central window behind the balcony has been made into a door with triple-lighted rectangular transom. The balcony was added in the 1890's. A basement entrance and window to the left of center were added in the twentieth century.

The side elevations are dominated by the six levels of corbiesteps, which are capped with flat slabs of stone coping. The wall towards the center of the block (west) is in original condition, with a row of three windows on each floor, trimmed in the same manner as those of the main elevation, with a single rectangular opening centrally placed on the loft level. On the east elevation, facing Main Street, the second floor and loft openings are intact, but the outer window bays on the first floor have been cut downward to grade level, and are now doorways which flank a large round arch, which has replaced the central first floor window. The arch is apparently an addition of the late nineteenth century. The rock-faced voussoirs spring from foliated imposts and are capped by a smooth, archivolt molding, as in the Richardsonian Romanesque style. The interior of the arch is divided into three bays with transom lights; the sill line is just beneath the top of the original basement coursing. The flanking windows, and a similarly lengthened first floor window just around the corner on the main (south) elevation, are trimmed with wide boards and capped with flat hood moulds.

The interior has been altered a number of times.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1849

Builder/Architect Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Gramelspacher-Gutzweiler House has remained a significant architectural landmark in Jasper despite a varied history of uses and property owners, and moving of the house in 1980. The structure's major value stems from its architectural merit. Wilbur D. Peat, in his Indiana Houses of the Nineteenth Century, noted that federal styled houses with stepped gables are rare in Indiana. "The Gramelspacher-Gutzweiler House in Jasper is the most imposing representative of this class in Indiana. The number of corbiesteps (they are usually larger and fewer), the well defined windows with painted frames, and the circular-arched door combine to give the house a strong, rather noble character." (P. 17).

The structure was constructed for Joseph Gramelspacher and his wife, Sophia, in 1849. It was the first brick house in Jasper and is now the oldest surviving structure in the town. Little is known about Gramelspacher; it is quite possible that, like his wife, he migrated from Germany, settling on a farm near Jasper in the 1830's. This area of Dubois County was settled by a colony of Germans. Gramelspacher died in 1853, and his widow sold the house in 1855.

The house changed hands a number of times until 1894 when it was acquired by Michael F. Durlauf. Durlauf was a stone cutter, and he added a balcony above the center entrance and a large, stone-arched window in the Main Street (east) elevation. He also operated a monument display shop in the basement.

In 1906 Durlauf sold the building to Elenora A. Gutzweiler, who converted the structure to the Palms Garden Tavern. The Gutzweiler family, in turn, sold the property to the Wehrle family in 1960. More recently, the structure housed a senior citizens residence, shoe repair shop, and barber shop.

The Gramelspacher House was listed in the National Register on November 2, 1978, but was deleted in early 1981 after it was relocated without prior approval. The house had stood at the corner of 7th and Main Streets, in a downtown commercial area, before being moved to its present site at 11th and Main Streets. This action was necessary to prevent demolition of the structure; Sears, Roebuck and Company had bought the property and planned to raze the structure, and use the land for parking. Various community groups banded together and arranged to move the structure in order to preserve it.

The building was moved intact to a new location four blocks away. The new site was formerly a vacant lot, and had no known archaeological or historical significance. Like the old site, it was located on the northwest corner of the intersection of Main and a cross street; this made it possible to preserve the building's original orientation and its east frontage on Main Street. The home's new site is a stable community with a number of large, well-maintained, 19th century structures and is, perhaps, a more appropriate location in view of the recent commercialization of the 7th and Main Street area. The relocation of any historic structure should be the subject of close scrutiny, but in this instance, the move was a sensitive one in order to save a very rare example

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Please see attached continuation sheet

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Jasper, Indiana

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A 

1	6	5	0	6	0	2	0	4	2	4	9	4	4	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot #15 in Kundeck's First Addition to the Town, now City, of Jasper, Indiana, according to the map, plat, or chart, thereof.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title William E. Weikert

organization Historic Jasper, Inc.

date June 1982

street & number P.O. Box 325

telephone 812/482-5725

city or town Jasper

state Indiana 47546

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☒ state ☐ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer

date 12-30-82

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

# **National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form**

OMB NO. 1004-0018

EXP. 12/31/84

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Continuation sheet Gramelpacher-Gutzweiler Hse. Item number 8

Page 1

Because the house's significance is based primarily on its architectural merit, and not on any historical connection with its former site, it is as significant on its new site as it was on the old.

Upon completion of the renovation now in progress, the house will be used as an adult education center.

OMB 1010-018  
EXP. 12/31/84

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Continuation sheet Gramelspacher-Gutzweiler

Item number 9

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Peat, Wilbur D. Indiana Houses of the Nineteenth Century. Chicago:  
R. R. Donellay & Sons, 1962.

Wilson, George R. History of Dubois County from Primitive Days to 1910.  
Jasper: George R. Wilson, 1910.

Louisville Times, August 15, 1966.

Dubois County Daily Herald (Jasper), July 29, 1976

Deed Records



16/506020/4249440



NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
L. SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
L. RESOURCES, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204  
AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

JASPER, IND.  
N3822.5—W8652.5/7.5  
1960  
PHOTOREVISED 1980  
DMA 3660 IV NW—SERIES V851

(SAINT ANTHONY)  
3660 IV SE